

## ABSTRACT

The present invention involves an optical assay device and method of use for the detection of an analyte of interest in a sample that conveniently allows control of

5      the flow characteristics of the sample through the device without significant user intervention. The optical assay device includes a base having an absorbent material, and a member having an optically active test stack that is rotatably coupled to the base for rotation between a lowered position and a raised position. In the lowered position, the optically active test stack contacts the absorbent material for drawing

10     the sample through the surface. In the raised position, the optically active test stack does not contact the absorbent material.

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